

## Abstract of the Disclosure

An image forming method using a photothermographic material comprising, on at least one side of a support, at least a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent and a binder, wherein the photothermographic material: 1) having a gamma value of 2.0 to 4.0 is developed in a thermal development device configured such that a distance between an exposing section and a developing section is not more than 50 cm; 2) having a silver salt of fatty acid at an application amount of 5 mmol/m<sup>2</sup> to 18 mmol/m<sup>2</sup> is developed in a thermal development device configured such that a distance between an exposing section and a developing section is not more than 50 cm; 3) is discharged from a thermal development device within 35 seconds after heating for thermal development is ceased.